

My name is Ja' Darius Khalil Roberts. I was arrested December 23, 2015 and charged with 14 Attempted murders, 2 shooting in dwelling, 1 conspiracy, and 1 possession of a firearm during a violent crime. When I went to my preliminary hearing, 15 of my charges were dismissed leaving me charged with only 1 Attempted murder and 2 discharging firearms at or into dwellings. The Public Defender assigned to me - Melissa A. Inzerillo - made the statement that I should've never been charged with Attempted murder because no one was hurt during the incident. I feel as if I should've never been charged, let alone convicted of an attempted murder, when I did not intend to kill anyone. Section 16-3-29 defines 'Attempted murder' as a person who, with the intent to kill, attempts to kill another person with malice aforthought, either expressed or implied, commits the offense of attempted murder. I never had the intentions to kill anyone nor did I imply that I wanted to kill anyone. I did commit the shooting - like I had confessed in my statement - but I didn't do it to kill. I did it as a scare tactic. Someone shot in to my Grandmother's home prior to the incidents that took place on the 23rd of December, 2015. During the time of the incident I was under the influence of cocaine and xanax when I decided that retaliation was the only way to assure that my Grandmother's house would never be shot at again. I did not aim the gun at anyone in particular and honestly had no idea anyone was home at the time. I do realize now, with a clear and sober mind, that at the time of the incident I was thinking completely irrationally while under the influence of the drugs stated above. When I was offered my first plea, I felt it wasn't fair do to the fact that I would be signing a plea for a conviction of Attempted murder. I tried to decline the plea because I felt I would have a better outcome if I took it to trial but Judge John C. Hayes told me if I fire my lawyer no one will represent me. How could I go to trial without a representative? The prosecutor could have done anything to me. I was scared so I pled out to a "no contest; N.C. vs. Aford."

I'm writing the South Carolina Court of Appeals in the

hopes that my case can be reviewed and I can be retried
on the charges at hand.

Thank you for your time and this opportunity to have my
case looked over. I Hope to hear from the South Carolina
Court of Appeals soon.

Sincerely,

*Gi Davina
Rotunda*

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SC Court of Appeals

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